

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE
WEBB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
MEETING OF DECEMBER 12, 2001
LAREDO, TEXAS**

Let it be remembered that a regular meeting of the Webb County Commissioners Court was held on December 12, 2001 at 9:00 a.m. the regular meeting place with the following members present to wit:

Mercurio Martinez, Jr.
Jerry Vasquez
Judith Gutierrez
Felix Velasquez
Miguel Urdiales

County Judge
Commissioner Prct. #1
Commissioner Prct. #2
Commissioner Prct. #3
Commissioner Prct. #4

Thus constituting a quorum, the Commissioners Court proceeded to act upon the agenda as posted on the 6th December 2001. Present also were Selina G. Reyes, Deputy County Clerk, representing Mr. Henry Flores, County Clerk, various officers and other interested in the business of the court.

01-12-316

2. Approval of Minutes –

A motion was made by Commissioner Gutierrez and seconded by Commissioner Velasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to accept the minutes as submitted with the following corrections:

Page 7 } Item 7. – c. Correct Series 2001 to Series 2000

01-12-318

3. Communications –

Dr. David Jones, Superintendent for Webb Consolidated Independent School District addressed the court regarding his concerns over Law Enforcement issues.

Mr. Robert Marshall came before the court to discuss the leased vehicle for Constable Annette Munoz.

Dr. Hector Farias, VIDA addressed the court regarding various issues.

At this time the United South High School Color Guard made a presentation.

Judge Martinez administered the Oath Of Office to Mr. Jesus Cantu as Veteran’s Service Officer.

A motion was made by Commissioner Vasquez and seconded by Commissioner Gutierrez with all voting “aye”, in favor to move up items 01-12-324 9. – e and 01-12-321 6. – d (2.) :

Mr. Rick Reyes and Mr. Kendall Finney, representing Hale Mills Construction, Inc., addressed the court regarding a claim in the amount of \$ 117,540.11 (there is a credit of \$ 15,000 due to the county). This claim is for renovations and improvements to the Webb County Law Enforcement Center.

The court decided to take this item in Executive Session at the later part of the meeting.

6. – d. (2.) –

Tabled Item/ SUV Constable Pct. 3

The court discussed the need to purchase a SUV for Constable Precinct 3, Ms. Annette Munoz.

A motion to table this item was made by Commissioner Vasquez and seconded by Commissioner Urdiales with all voting “aye”, in favor, except Commissioner Gutierrez voting “aye”, against. The vote being 4 to 1, motion carried.

The item tabled was:

Action to authorize the purchase of an SUV for Constable Precinct 3, Annette Munoz, in an amount not to exceed \$ 22,400 from Bond Series 2001 Capital Outlay.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gutierrez and seconded by Commissioner Velasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to move up item 01-12-325 10. – f.:

Order Tax Abatement / Doctor’s Hospital–

Mr. John Adams, Laredo Development Foundation came before the court to address this item.

After discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Vasquez and seconded by Commissioner Urdiales with all voting “aye”, in favor to approve an Order for Tax Abatement Contract with Doctor’s Hospital of Laredo, Incorporated, a Delaware Corporation, for property located at 10700 McPherson Road, Laredo, Webb County, Texas 78045, pursuant to the Texas Property redevelopment and Tax Abatement Act, V.A.T.S. Tax Code, Chapter 312, as amended and Resolution of the Webb County Commissioner Court passed January 22, 1999 (electing to become eligible to participate in tax abatements), for a 100% Tax Abatement subject to the tax abatement criteria in said agreement, which require that the aggregate cost of improvement not fall below ten million dollars (which said improvements are \$ 4.5 million dollars in underdeveloped cost, \$ 30,600,000.00 million dollars in building construction and \$ 8,525,000.00 in equipment costs) and that a minimum of 200 new permanent full-time jobs be created and sustained within one year after the completion of improvements, for a term of 5 years beginning on January 1, 2002 and ending on December 31, 2007) and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

01-12-319

4. Bills, Payroll and Monthly Reports –

Mr. Jorge Flores, Chief Deputy Treasurer came before the court and presented the monthly Treasurer report.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gutierrez and seconded by Commissioner Velasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to approve to pay the list of bills as presented.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gutierrez and seconded by Commissioner Velasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to accept all reports as submitted.

01-12-320

5. Proclamations/Resolutions –

None at this time.

01-12-321

6. – a.

Tax Assessor-Collector / Refunds –

A motion was made by Commissioner Gutierrez and seconded by Commissioner Vasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to approve refunds as follows:

Ilieana Ramirez

Reason: did not exist on 1st of the year as per Appraisal District

Total Refund: \$ 529.23

Jett Bowl North

Reason: Change in value as per Appraisal District

Total Refund: \$ 765.35

NBC Bank Laredo

Reason: paid in error

Total Refund: \$ 588.99

6. – b. Elections Administration / Appointment –

A motion was made by commissioner Gutierrez and seconded by Commissioner Velasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to approve the appointment of a presiding Judge in Pct. 16B and an Alternate Judge in Pct. 26A for the remainder of the unexpired Term pursuant to Sec. 32.002 (e), Texas Election Code.

6. – c. Juvenile Department / Fill Slot –

A motion was made by Commissioner Vasquez and seconded by Commissioner Velasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to fill slot #352 (Detention Officer) at \$ 9.98 an hour effective 12/14/01.

6. – d. Webb County Auditor / Purchase of Computers –

A motion was made by Commissioner Gutierrez and seconded by Commissioner Vasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to authorize the purchase of computers and accessories for the Auditor’s department to replace equipment that has become obsolete and/or in need of constant repairs not to exceed \$ 35,000 from Bond Series 2001 Capital Outlay.

6. – e. Head Start Program / Modification –

A motion was made by Commissioner Gutierrez and seconded by Commissioner Vasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to approve modification for Slot #1092 (Head Start Maintenance Program) effective December 14, 2001 as follows (no impact on the General Fund):

From:

To:

Maintenance worker @ \$ 9.03 an
hour

Maintenance Foreman @ \$ 12.06
an hour

6. – f. Public Defender / Fill Slot -

A motion was made by Commissioner Gutierrez and seconded by Commissioner Vasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to fill slot # 253 at an annual salary of \$ 58,823.

6. – g. Planning Department / Issue Certifications –

A motion was made by Commissioner Vasquez and seconded by Commissioner Gutierrez with all voting “aye”, in favor to authorize the County Judge, County Attorney and the Planning Director to issue “Certification regarding compliance of utilities” until January 8, 2002, in order to fulfill the time requirement for county action pursuant to State Law, any certificate issued during this time period will be submitted for ratification by the Commissioners Court.

6. – h. J.P. Danny Valdez / Fill Slot –

A motion was made by Commissioner Gutierrez and seconded by Commissioner Vasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to fill slot # 883 at \$ 8.38 an hour effective December 14, 2001.

6. – i. Community Action Agency / Temporary Full-Time Slots –

A motion was made by Commissioner Vasquez and seconded by Commissioner Velasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to create, advertise and fill the following Temporary Full-Time slots for the Weatherization Program effective January 1, 2002 (Grant Monies – No impact on the General Fund):

<u>Slot#</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
xxxx	Assessor-Temp./Full time	\$ 9.00
xxxx	Inspector-Temp./Full-time	\$ 9.00
xxxx	Clerk-Temp./Full-time	\$ 6.50
xxxx	Labor-Temp./Full-time	\$ 6.50
xxxx	Labor-Temp./Full-time	\$ 6.50

6. – j. Status Report -

1.

Commissioner Velasquez requested Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor to provide a status report on the year-end audit conducted by Baum & Mejia, Co., P.L.L.C. for the General Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended September 30, 2001.

6. – j. Name Committee / GASB34 –

2.

Commissioner Velasquez inquired about the governmental accounting Standard Board – changes in accounting system, reporting management and redesign of financial statement reporting.

No action taken on this item.

6. – j. Webb County Web Page -
3.

The court discussed updating the Web Page for the County of Webb on a current basis to include the Commissioners Court agenda and other information.

No action taken on this item.

A motion was made by Commissioner Vasquez and seconded by Commissioner Urdiales with all voting “aye”, in favor to move up item 01-12-322 7. – c. }

Hire firm of Mejia Engineering / Plat ten-acre tract –

A motion was made by Commissioner Vasquez and seconded by Commissioner Urdiales with all voting “aye”, in favor and order an exemption to Competitive Bidding Section 262.023 Local Government Code as a Professional Service, to plat the ten-acre Tract deeded to the county by Mr. Simon Deutsch and Mr. Abe Wilson for a total amount of \$ 8,500 from account # 001-0109-6022, Professional Services (This tract is located north of Penitas West and is designated as a park. A community center will be constructed on the ten-acre tract). This approval is given subject to the County Engineer working with County Attorney on the Professional Service Agreement.

** Commissioner Gutierrez was excused from the meeting at this time.

01-12-322

7. – a. Authorize Final Payment / Airweld Construction -

A motion was made by Commissioner Vasquez and seconded by Commissioner Velasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to authorize final payment to Airweld Construction Company in the amount of \$ 43,831.79 for the remodeling of the Texas Department of Public Safety building and future offices of J.P. Oscar O. Martinez and Constable Tino Juarez, Precinct # 4.

7. – b. Cellular Phone / Engineering Department –

A motion was made by Commissioner Vasquez and seconded by Commissioner Velasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to provide a cellular phone for Yolanda Lara, R.O.W. Acquisition Coordinator of the Engineering Department (500 minutes). The phone will facilitate the acquisition of R.O.W. Documents for the Highway 359 Colonias, the Mines Road and the Tiendas Colonias Road.

01-12-323

8. – a. Self-Help Center / Fill Slot –

A motion was made by Commissioner Velasquez and seconded by Commissioner Vasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to fill slot #1441 (Administrative Assistant) for the Self-Help Center at \$ 9.41 an hour and Slot# 2002 (Construction Coordinator) at \$ 14.24 an hour, funded under Department of Housing and Community Affairs-Office of Colonia Initiatives (Self-Help Center Program- fund # 504).

8. – b. Transfer of Slot / Engineering Department –

A motion was made by Commissioner Velasquez and seconded by Commissioner Urdiales with all voting “aye”, in favor to authorize the transfer of Slot # 1442 (Service Coordinator) from the Webb County Self-Help Center to the Webb County Engineering Department at \$ 1418 an hour effective December 10, 2001 (amount to be paid from Grant funds – TCDP Contract # 721105 Right-Of-Way Acquisition Project Fund 652).

8. – c. Self-Help Center / Fill Slots –

A motion was made by Commissioner Vasquez and seconded by Commissioner Velasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to fill slots # 1462 and 1463 (fence relocation laborer- full time temporary positions) for the Self-Help Center at \$ 6.50 an hour funded under the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs Office of Colonia Initiatives (Self-Help Center Program Fund 504).

01-12-324

9. – a. Head Start / Purchase supplies –

A motion was made by Commissioner Velasquez and seconded by Commissioner Urdiales with all voting “aye”, in favor to purchase office and educational supplies from Executive World in the amount of \$ 6,034.60 for the Webb County Head Start Program (acct. 903-4208-6069).

9. – b. Purchases memorial bases –

A motion was made by Commissioner Urdiales and seconded by Commissioner Vasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to purchase memorial bases for the veteran’s Cemetery from Standard Granite Company in the amount of \$ 11,024.36 (acct. 001-0109-6401).

9. – c. Deferred Item –

A motion was made by Commissioner Vasquez and seconded by Commissioner Urdiales with all voting “aye”, in favor to defer this item:

Discussion and possible action to purchase four 12 gauge shotguns, nine 45 caliber handguns (to include one extra magazine), padded floorplate, one high power rifle, three tactical weapons and nine portable radios for Constable Raul Hinojosa, Pct. 1 (acct. 166-2500-8801).

9. – d. PCI Services, Inc. –

A motion was made by Commissioner Velasquez and seconded by Commissioner Urdiales with all voting “aye”, in favor to obtain to services of PCI services Inc., to provide a new surge suppression protector unit and install a ground bar in each building or tank station in the amount of \$ 7,416.95 (acct. 010-7002-6410).

01-12-325

10. – a. Hotel-Motel Occupancy Tax Funded Contracts –

A motion was made by Commissioner Urdiales and seconded by Commissioner Velasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to enter into Hotel-Motel Occupancy Tax Funded Contracts with the following organizations and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents:

Historical Commission	\$ 5,000.00
Veteran’s Boxing Coalition	\$ 7,500.00
Latin- American Sports Hall of Fame	\$ 6,000.00
Central (Child) Welfare Board	
Third Party	\$ 4,000.00

10. – b Accept Grant / Sheriff’s Office –

A motion was made by Commissioner Urdiales and seconded by Commissioner Velasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to accept a \$ 5,000.00 Grant for the Webb County Sheriff’s Office and enter into a contract with the Texas Department of Transportation to conduct additional speed and occupant restraint enforcement, surveys and education and media activity during selected holiday periods and authorize the County Judge to execute all relevant documents (This grant does not require any grant matching funds).

10. – c. Agreement / Oilton Rural Water Supply –

A motion was made by Commissioner Vasquez and seconded by Commissioner Urdiales with all voting “aye”, in favor to enter into an agreement with the Oilton Rural Water Supply Corporation to authorize and allow Webb County, pursuant to a Grant Contract with the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TCDP Contract #721859) to develop, design and construct a fifty thousand gallon elevated storage tank foundation, yard piping, electrical and telemetry, access road and fencing and authorize the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

10. – d. Contract / Naismith Engineering, Inc. –

A motion was made by Commissioner Vasquez and seconded by Commissioner Velasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to enter into a Engineering Services Contract with Naismith Engineering, Inc., in the amount of \$ 269,555.00 for surveying and mapping in preparation for Right-Of-Way Acquisition in Colonias Pueblo Nuevo, Ranchitos 359 East, and Laredo Ranchettes and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

10. – e. Interlocal Agreement / La Salle County –

A motion was made by Commissioner Vasquez and seconded by Commissioner Velasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to enter into a Interlocal Agreement with La Salle County, Texas for transportation services to eligible residents of La Salle County for medical appointments/services in Laredo and providing for monthly payments of \$ 750.00 by La Salle County to defray costs and authorize the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

10. – g. Contract / Architect’s Plus -

A motion was made by Commissioner Vasquez and seconded by Commissioner Urdiales with all voting “aye”, in favor to modify the terms and conditions of a contract with Architect’s Plus to stipulate a fixed sum not to exceed \$ 39,200 for the design of the Penitas West Community Center and Mirando City Community Center expansion projects plus certain reimbursable costs and authorize the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

10. – h. Tabled item –

A motion was made by Commissioner Vasquez and seconded by Commissioner Urdiales with all voting “aye”, in favor to table this item:

Action to enter into a Contract with the Texas Migrant Council, Inc., d/b/a/ Texas Workforce Center for subsidized workforce participants with the Texas Workforce Center expansion projects plus certain reimbursable costs and authorize the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

10. – i. Agreement / Laredo Job Corp. –

A motion was made by Commissioner Vasquez and seconded by Commissioner Urdiales with all voting “aye”, in favor to enter into an Agreement with the Laredo Job Corps to provide part-time student employees for six month period, to assist county Departments with clerical duties at no cost to the county as Laredo Job Corps will pay for stipend, provide transportation and provide liability insurance for participants and authorize the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gutierrez and seconded by Commissioner Velasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to recess the meeting until 2:30 p.m.

2:45 p.m.

Judge Martinez called the meeting to order.

2:49 p.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gutierrez and seconded by Commissioner Vasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to go into Executive Session for the following items:

9. – e. } Action regarding claim of Corplan Corrections and/or Hale Mills Construction, Inc., in connection with renovations and Improvements to the Webb County Law Enforcement Center.

10. – j. } Action regarding Cause No. 2001-CVQ-001523-D2; Webb County, Texas by and through its Commissioners Court vs. Juan Garza, individually and in his capacity as sheriff of Webb County, Texas.

*****EXECUTIVE SESSION*****

3:35 p.m.

The court returned to regular session and Judge Martinez stated that no action had been taken in Executive Session.

9. – e. – No action needed on this item.

10. – j.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gutierrez and seconded by Commissioner Velasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to authorize the County Attorney to send a letter to Corplan and Hale Mills advising them that unfinished work be completed with a demand of completion, if it is not accomplished voluntarily with financial compensation to Webb County for work that has not been done. In addition, a statement to the effect that Webb County is not obligated to pay the \$ 50,000.00 additional payment for worked promised in 150 days.

Mr. George Gonzales, County Extension Agent came before the court to make the annual report to the court. Mr. Gonzales introduced Mr. Jose Perez, Ms. Joy Vasquez, Mr. Hector Cavazos, Ms. Maggie Moreno. At this time they highlighted several areas of the Extension Department.

Judge Martinez and the court wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gutierrez and seconded by Commissioner Vasquez with all voting “aye”, in favor to adjourn the meeting.

